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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q64862

Masayuki SAKATA

Appln. No.: 09/874,219

Group Art Unit: 2661

Confirmation No.: 5671

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: June 06, 2001

For: METHOD AND NETWORK FOR TOLERATING A FAULT ON HUBS AND LINES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

JUL 0 2 2003
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. H. Kamada et al., "Optical LAN applications and prospects, *Gazo Denshi Gakkaishi*, Japan, Institute of Image Electronics Engineers, Vol. 23, No. 23, (August 25, 1994), pp. 350-363.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-275129, published October 8, 1999.

Masayuki SAKATA
09/874,219
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 10-224382, published August 21, 1998.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 7-38595, published February 7, 1995.
5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 7-235933, published September 5, 1995.
6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 5-53957, published March 5, 1993.
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-355868, published December 24, 1999.
8. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 63-174431, published July 18, 1988.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

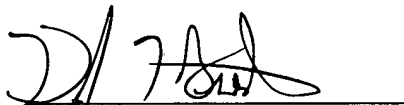
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated April 1, 2003 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof,

Masayuki SAKATA
09/874,219
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665 for
J. Frank Osha
Registration No. 24,625

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: July 1, 2003

Q64862



A. The inventions as per the following claims of this application could have been easily invented based on the inventions described in the publications indicated below, which had been distributed in Japan or abroad prior to the filing of this application, by a person having ordinary knowledge in the technical field of the invention prior to the filing of this application, and therefore cannot be patented as per the stipulations of Article 29, Paragraph 2 of the Japan Patent Law.

Note

▪ Claims 1, 2

Cited Example 1: Kamata, Hiroshi, Optical LAN applications and prospects, *Gazo Denshi Gakkaishi*, Japan, Institute of Image Electronics Engineers, 25 August 1994, Vol. 23, No. 4, pp. 350-363

Cited Example 2: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-275129

Cited Example 3: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-224382

Cited Example 4: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H07-038595

Cited Example 5: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H07-235933

Cited Example 6: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H05-053957

Cited Example 7: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H11-355868

Cited Example 8: Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication S63-174431

Remarks

Connecting a hub in a loop is well known, as per Cited Example 1, Figure 9; Cited Example 2, Figure 2; Cited Example 3, Figure 1; and Cited Example 4, Figure 7.

Furthermore, redundant connection of terminals is well known, as per Cited Example 5, Figure 1; Cited Example 6, Figure 1; and Cited Example 7, Figure 9.

Providing redundant power supplies is well known, as per Cited Example 8, Figure 3.

The invention as per the present application is found to be a combination of these well-known techniques.

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Application Number	09/874,219
Confirmation Number	5671
Filing Date	June 06, 2001
First Named Inventor	Masayuki SAKATA
Art Unit	2661
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	Q64862

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	11-275129	A	10/08/1999		
		JP	10-224382	A	08/21/1998		
		JP	7-38595	A	02/07/1995		
		JP	7-235933	A	09/05/1995		
		JP	5-53957	A	03/05/1993		
		JP	11-355868	A	12/24/1999		
		JP	63-174431	A	07/18/1988		

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		H. Kamada et al., "Optical LAN applications and prospects, <i>Gazo Denshi Gakkaishi</i> , Japan, Institute of Image Electronics Engineers, Vol. 23, No. 4, (August 25, 1994), pp. 350-363.	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.